

Radnorshire County Council.



Annual Report

Of the

Medical Officer of Health

For the

Year 1941,

By

T. E. JONES-DAVIES,

M.A., M.B., M.R.C.P., D.P.H.

County Medical Officer of Health

PRESTEIGNE.

Beddoes, County Printing Works.

District Medical Officers (Poor Law) and Public Vaccinators.

The District Medical Officers of Health, and Drs. †H. C. D. Miller, R. F. Jayne, H. W. Powell, *P. Shankey. A. Miller Kerr and O. W. D. Steel.
†Public Vaccinator only. *District Medical Officer only.

Vaccination Officers.

Messrs. W. J. Beavan, G. W. Griffiths. A. R. Hicks, A. J. James, J. P. Lingen, D. J. Pugh and G. P. Weale.

Sanitary Inspectors.

NAME and ADDRESS.	DISTRICT.	QUALIFICATIONS.
H. Fowler, Town Hall, Knighton.	Knighton Urban.	Cert. R. San. Inst.
J. Morris, Town Hall, Llandrindod Wells.	Llandrindod Urban.	Cert. R. San. Inst.
P. Morris, Westfield, Kington.	Presteigne Urban.	Cert. R. San. Inst.
Evans, Victoria House, Erwood.	Colwyn Rural.	Cert. R. San. Inst.
Llewellyn, Wylewm House,, Knighton.	Knighton Rural.	Cert. R. San. Inst., A.R., M.S.I.A.
P. Lingen, Broad Street, New Radnor.	New Radnor Rural.	—
J. Price, Hardwick House, Clifford, Hay.	Painscastle Rural.	—
Worthing, Tegid House, Rhayader.	Rhayader Rural.	—

Clerk to the County Council: G. W. Moseley.

Inspector of Midwives: Miss J. Todd, S.R.N.,
Cert. C.M.B., Cert. R. San. Inst.

Deputy Inspector of Midwives: Miss A. White,
S.R.N., Cert. C.M.B., Cert. R. San. Inst.

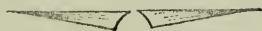
Inspector under the Sale of Food and Drugs: C. S. W. Powell.

County Analyst: Herbert J. Evans, B.Sc., F.I.C.

Veterinary Officer: J. P. Railton, M.R.C.V.S.

Clerk to the Medical Officer of Health: R. P. Bufton.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Radnorshire County Council.



Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour of presenting to you the Annual Report on the Health Conditions in the County during the Year 1941.

I regret the late appearance of the Report, but under the circumstances the delay was unavoidable.

Despite all the exigencies of war-time conditions accentuated by difficulties connected with the reception of Evacuees, and, for a time depleted clerical staff, the the administration of the duties which devolve upon the County Health Authority has been fully maintained.

It is impossible to express adequately my gratitude to all the Staff of my Department, and also to the District Nurses for their untiring and loyal devotion to their work. The seemingly inseparable difficulties associated with evacuation problems could not have been so easily overcome without such help as they gladly gave.

It is once more my pleasure to acknowledge the unfailing encouragement and courtesy given to me by the Members of the County Council.

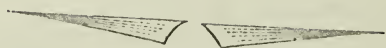
I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

T. E. JONES-DAVIES,

County Medical Officer of Health.

ANNUAL REPORT.



SECTION A.—Area.

The Administrative County of Radnor comprises three Urban and five Rural Districts ; it covers an area of 301,165 acres (Urban 8,167 acres, Rural 292,998 acres).

Births.

LIVE BIRTHS.—Total number of live births registered in the County during 1941 was 324, compared with 321 during 1940. There were 302 legitimate births (males 158, females 144).

STILL BIRTHS.—The total number of still births registered in the County was 17 (males 12, females 5) compared with 14 in 1940.

Illegitimate Births.

The total number of illegitimate live births was 22 (males 9, females 13).

Areas.	Live Births.			Still Births.	
	No. of Births.	Birth Rates.		No.	Rates per 1000 total births.
		1941.	1936-40.		
Urban District :					
Knighton ...	25	11·5	12·5	—	—
Llandrindod Wells	42	10·9	13·9	—	—
Presteigne ...	22	17·3	14·7	1	43·5
Rural Districts :					
Colwyn ...	27	13·1	12·9	1	35·7
Knighton ...	54	14·6	16·7	4	69·0
New Radnor ...	38	15·3	15·4	3	73·2
Painscastle ...	37	17·2	17·6	2	51·3
Rhayader ..	79	15·7	13·9	6	70·6
Urban Districts ...	89	12·2	13·6	1	11·1
Rural Districts ...	235	15·2	15·3	16	63·7
Administrative County	324	14·3	14·8	17	49·9

Death Rate.

The total number of deaths which occurred in the County (after due correction for residents who died outside the County and non-residents who died in the County) was 342 compared with 290 in 1940.

$$2172 = \frac{1000}{2172} \times 25 \quad \begin{array}{r} 25 \cdot 000 \\ 2172 \overline{) 2172} \\ \underline{2172} \\ 0 \end{array} \quad (11)$$

Of the deaths 124 (males 56, females 68) occurred in the Urban, and 218 (males 102, females 116) in the Rural Districts.

Particulars in regard to Death Rates (per 1,000 of the population) for 1941, and for the five years 1936-40, are as follows :—

Areas.	No. of Deaths.	Crude Death Rates.	
		1941.	1941. 1936-40.
Urban Districts :			
Knighton -	35	16·1	16·8
Lland'dod Wells	61	15·8	16·2
Prestoigne -	28	22·0	15·8
Rural Districts :			
Colwyn -	28	13·6	12·5
Knighton -	45	12·2	12·8
New Radnor -	44	17·7	14·5
Painscastle -	25	11·6	14·0
Rhayader -	76	15·1	13·8
<hr/>			
Urban Districts -	124	17·0	16·2
Rural Districts -	218	14·1	13·5
Administrative County	342	15·0	14·3

The principal causes of death for the year 1941 and the 5 years 1936-40, are given in the table which follows :—

Causes of Death.	1941. No. of Deaths.	1941. Percentage of total Deaths.	1936-40. Percent- age of total Deaths.
Diseases of Circulatory System (Heart Disease 112, Other Diseases 6)	118	34.5	36.0
Cancer, Malignant Disease	45	13.2	11.5
Diseases of Respiratory System (Bronchitis 13 Pneumonia 11, Other 5)	29	8.5	6.9
Intra-Cranial Vascular Lesions	38	11.1	6.1
Tuberculosis (Pulmonary 7, Non-Pulmonary 4)	11	3.2	3.7
Infectious Diseases (other than Tuberculosis)	10	2.9	4.3
Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Malformation, etc.	11	3.2	3.2
Violence (Suicide 3, Road Traffic Accident 2, Other 3)	8	2.3	4.4
Diseases of Digestive System (Peptic Ulcer 4, Other 7)	11	3.2	2.2
Acute and Chronic Nephritis	14	4.1	4.8
Diabetes	2	0.6	.8
Total	297	86.8	83.9

The largest number of deaths occurred from diseases of the Circulatory System followed by Cancer.

The deaths from Cancer number 45, i.e. 13·2 per cent of all deaths compared with 12·7 per cent during the five years 1931-35.

Infantile Mortality.

The number of deaths under 1 year in the County during 1941 was 19, compared with 10 for 1940; the infantile mortality rate (number of deaths under 1 year per 1,000 births) was 59 compared with 31 in 1940; the legitimate rate was 43 per 1,000 legitimate births. Of the deaths 8 (3 males, 5 females) occurred in the Urban, and 11 (8 males, 3 females) in the Rural Districts.

There were 6 deaths of illegitimate children (3 males 3 females) in the Rural Districts, equal to a rate of 273 per 1,000 illegitimate births.

Particulars in connection with the various districts for 1941, and for the 10 years 1926-35 are as follows :—

Areas.	No of Deaths under 1 year. 1941.	Rates per 1000 births.	
		1941.	1926-35.
Urban Districts :			
Knighton -	2	6·2	32
Llandrindod Wells -	4	12·3	56
Presteigne -	2	6·2	71
Rural Districts :			
Colwyn -	—	—	41
Knighton -	4	12·3	71
New Radnor -	2	6·2	43
Painscastle -	3	9·3	55
Rhayader -	2	6·2	56
Urban Districts -	8	25	50
Rural Districts -	11	34	56
Administrative County	19	59	55

Diarrhœa and Entiritis (under age of 2 yrs.)

There was 1 death attributed to the above.

Extracts from Vital Statistics of the Year.

Relating to the net births and deaths after correction for inward and outward transfers as furnished by the Registrar-General.

	Total.	M.	F.
Live Births—Legitimate	302	158	144
„ Illegitimate	22	9	13
Stillbirths	17	12	5
Deaths	342	158	184

Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population 14'3

Death Rate „ „ „ „ 15'0

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age:—

All infants per 1,000 live births	...	58'6
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births		43'0
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births		272'7
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	45
„ Measles (all ages)	...	—
„ Whooping Cough (all ages)		—
„ Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age)		1

Of the 19 deaths of infants under one year of age (males 11, females 8) death occurred in 5 cases during the neo-natal period i. e. in the first month of life.

General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

Laboratory Work.

No change since last report.

Ambulance Services.

Two ambulances are situated at Llandrindod Wells. One at the Hospital and the other at the Town Hall. Both are available for duty in any part of the County.

Nursing in the Home.

Nursing in the Home is carried out by the District Nurses of whom there are 22 in the County.

Number of visits made during the year were 30,048.

Treatment Centres and Clinics.

No change from previous report.

Hospitals.

There is a General Voluntary Hospital of 40 beds at Llandrindod Wells. A Hospital Ward is attached to the Knighton Institution which was taken over by the Public Assistance Committee under the Local Government Act, 1929.

The voluntary Hospital at Llandrindod Wells and the Institution at Knighton have been included in the Emergency Medical Services Hospital Scheme.

Isolation Hospital Accommodation

Full details were given in the 1940 Report.

Local Government Act, 1929.

Poor Law Out-relief.

(a) Number of medical relief districts	...	9
(b) Number of districts included in (a) in which the "open choice" system of medical relief has been introduced	...	Nil.
(c) Number of district medical officers	...	10
(d) Number of officers in (c) whose whole time is devoted to public health service	...	Nil.

Institutional provision for care of Mental Defectives.

Male defectives are admitted to any Certified Institution approved by the Board of Control. Female defectives are admitted to Pantglas Institution. Defectives from the County have been admitted to the following Institutions.

Institutions.	M.	F.
Pantglas	—	10
Stoke Park Colony, Bristol	4	—
Royal Earlswood Institution, Surrey	1	—
Forden	4	1
Caersws	—	2

Maternal Mortality.

One death in which Childbirth was a primary cause occurred in the County during the year. The case was fully investigated in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health.

Maternity and Child Welfare.

Midwives Act, 1936.

The scheme is working satisfactorily. The District Nursing Associations are anxious to help and co-operate with the County Health Department in the work.

Hospital Provision for Mothers and Children.

Two beds are reserved in the Maternity Ward of the Llandrindod Wells Hospital for the treatment of complicated midwifery cases, or cases in which the home conditions are unsatisfactory. Knighton Public Assistance Institution has a well equipped maternity ward.

Health Visiting.

There are no full-time Health Visitors in the County the work being carried out by the District Nurses of whom there are 22. Their work is closely supervised by the full time County and Deputy County Nursing Superintendents.

Particulars of the number of visits paid during the year by all Health Visitors are as follows:—

(1) To Expectant Mothers—

First visits	517
Total visits	1691

(2) To children under one year of age—

First visits	308
Total visits	2812

(3) To children between age of 1 and 5 years—

Total visits	5698
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THE MIDWIVES' ACT

Summary of the Inspector's work :

Regular inspections of Midwives	83
Special visits of enquiry	7
Other visits	53
Letters and notices sent out	1717
Visits of inspection to Nursing Home	11

Notifications received from Midwives of :—

Intention to practice	27
Sending for medical help	84
Artificial feeding of infants	6
Still-births	7
Liability to be a source of infection	15
Having laid out a dead body	4
Death of mother	1
Death of infant	5

In connection with sending for medical aid, 18 notifications were received from the 3 Urban Districts and 66 from the 5 Rural. Particulars are as follows:

MOTHER—(a) Ante-natal.

Albuminuria	2
Ante-partum hæmorrhage	4
Dangerous varicose veins	1

(b) Labour and Puerperium.

Delay in 1st stage of labour	15
" 2nd " "	6

Malpresentations —(Monster 1 ;

Persistent occipito 1 ; Breech 3)	5
Primary uterine inertia	2
Ruptured perineum	17
Miscarriage	4
Abortion	4
Threatened abortion	3
Rise of temperature	4
Phlebitis	1
General condition of patient	1
Post-partum hæmorrhage	4
Retained placenta	3
Ante-partum hæmorrhage	1

INFANT.

Feebleness	1
Discharge from eyes	1
Abnormality	2
Retention of urine	1
Internal hæmorrhage	1
Diarrhoea and vomiting	1

In 77 cases (92·0 per cent) the aid was on behalf of the mother (ante-natal 9 per cent) ; and in 7 cases (8 per cent) in connection with the infant.

Treatment Centres and Child Welfare Clinics.

Infant Welfare Clinics are held at the following centers:

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. Howey | Last Tuesday in month, 2-30. |
| 2. Knighton | First Wednesday in month, 2-30. |
| 3. Llandr'dod Wells | 1st & 3rd Tuesdays in month, 2-30. |
| 4. New Radnor | Last Monday in month, 1-30. |
| 5. Presteigne | Second Tuesday in month. |
| 6. Rhayader | Second Friday in month, 2-0. |

The total number of attendances at all centres during the year was:—

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----|
| (1) Under one year of age | 590 |
| (2) Between ages 1 and 5 | 777 |

The percentage of notified live births which attended at the clinics was 37·0.

Ante-natal Scheme.

The Scheme has been in operation since August, 1931.

The total number of expectant mothers examined ante-natally under the scheme during the year was 143.

Post-natal Scheme.

The scheme was adopted by your Authority on 1st May, 1937. 7 cases were examined under the scheme.

Orthopædic Scheme.

The scheme established in 1927 in connection with the Shropshire Orthopædic Hospital. This covers children under school age, school children and adults. Clinics are held fortnightly at Llandrindod Wells, and arrangements exist for patients to be seen also at Leominster, Hereford, Newtown and Craven Arms.

CHILDREN UNDER SCHOOL AGE.

Centre.	New cases	Atten- dances.	Old cases.	Atten- dances.
Llandrindod Wells	9	21	8	19
Hereford ...	—	—	1	3
Newtown ...	1	5	—	—
Leominster ...	—	—	2	8
Total	10	26	11	30

ADULTS.

Centre.	New cases.	Atten- dances.	Old cases	Atten- dances.
Mlandrindod Wells	4	5	29	53
Hereford ...	1	3	5	9
Newtown ...	-	-	1	1
Craven Arms ...	-	-	1	1
Leominster ...	1	2	1	2
Total	6	10	37	66

Two children under school age and three adults were treated during the year at the Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Orthopædic Hospital.

Blind Persons Acts, 1920-1938.

Three "Blind Persons" were registered during the year.

A special Sub-Committee was set up in order to make a special investigation of the allowances of all blind persons registered under the Acts. In almost every instance an increase was made in the allowance.

Evacuation.

The difficulties attendant upon the influx of evacuees into the County were largely overcome by establishing a County Hostel and a County Sick Bay for contagious skin diseases. The County Council accepted the responsibility for the treatment and supervision of unbilittable children from the local authorities.

Infectious and Other Diseases.

Reference was made to the hospital accommodation available for cases of infectious disease in the Report for 1940.

TUBERCULOSIS.

RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT.

	In Insti- tutions on 31-12-40	Number admit- ted during year.	Total.	Number discharged.			In Insti- tutions on 31-12-41
				Quies- cent.	Impro- ved.	No mat- erial im- provem't	
Hospital: Pulmonary: Definitely Tuberculous	3	10	13	1	1	3	4
Doubtfully Tuberculous	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Non-Pulmonary: Definitely Tuberculous	1	2	3	-	-	1	2
Doubtfully Tuberculous	-	1	1	-	-	-	1
In Sanatoria: Definitely Tuberculous	2	2	4	-	2	1	1
Doubtfully Tuberculous	2	2	4	-	1	2	1
Grand Total	8	17	25	1	4	7	9

TABLE I.

Causes of Death in Administrative Areas in the County of
Radnor for 1941.

Causes of Death	Urban Districts				Rural Districts								County.						
	Knighton.		Llandrindod Wells.		Presteigne		Colwyn.		Knighton.		New Radnor.		Painscastle		Rhayader.		M.	F.	Total.
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F			
Pro-spinal fever	1																1	1	2
Bacteria ...									1								1	1	1
Tuberculosis of respiratory system									1			1		1		4	1	6	7
Chronic tuberculous diseases ...			1			1		1			1						2	2	4
Alcoholic diseases								1										1	1
Enza ...	1		1		2				1		1						5	1	6
Cancer, malignant disease ...	2	1	4	6	1	4	2	1	2	4	6	1	1	2	2	6	20	25	45
Diabetes ...				1											1		1	1	2
Cerebral vascular lesions	1	5	5	5	1	4		2	4	3	1	1			3	3	15	23	38
Heart disease ...	6	3	5	15	2	2	10	8	4	5	7	9	5	3	14	14	53	59	112
Circulatory diseases ...	1					2				1					1	1	2	4	6
Pharyngitis ...			1	3					1			1	1	2	3	1	6	7	13
Diphtheria(all forms)		1							1		2		2	1	1	3	6	5	11
Chronic respiratory diseases ...	1					1						1				1	2	3	5
Peptic ulcer ...	1			1							1					1	1	3	4
Pneumonia (under 2 yrs.)		1																1	1
Appendicitis ...																1		1	1
Chronic digestive diseases ...	1		2								2						3	2	5
Acute and chronic nephritis ...	2	1	2	1			1		1	1	2			2	1		7	7	14
Natural Causes									1									1	1
Constitutional debility			3	1		2			1	1		1		1			6	4	10
Accidents, rebirth &c.																			
Motor vehicle								1			1				1		2	1	3
Accidents							1					1					1	1	2
Violence ...											1				1	1	1	2	3
Other causes ...	3	2	3	1	3	3		7	7	2	1		5	4	4		22	23	45
TOTAL	20	15	26	35	10	18	13	15	22	23	22	22	11	14	34	42	158	184	342

Causes of death at different periods of life in the County of Radnor, 1941

Aggregate of Urban Districts.

[illegible]

TABLE II.

Causes of death at different periods of life in the County of Radnor, 1941

Aggregate of Rural Districts.

Causes of Death.	Sex.	All Ages.	0-	1-	5-	15-	45-	65-
Cerebro-spinal Fever	M							
Diphtheria	F	1			1			
"	M	1			1			
"	F							
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	M	1				1		
	F	6				5	1	
Other Tuberculous diseases	M	1		1				
	F	1		1				
Syphilitic diseases	M							
"	F	1					1	
Influenza	M	1						1
"	F	1						1
Cancer, Malignant disease	M	13				1	3	9
	F	14				3	5	6
Diabetes	M	1				1		
"	F							
Intracranial vascular lesions	M	8						8
"	F	9					2	7
Heart Disease	M	40				1	7	32
"	F	39				1	1	37
Other "Circulatory Diseases	M	1						1
	F	2						2
Bronchitis	M	5			1			4
"	F	4					1	3
Pneumonia (all forms)	M	6	2	1	2	1		
"	F	4	1					3
Other Respiratory Diseases	M	1						1
	F	1						1
Peptic Ulcer	M							
"	F	2					1	1
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	M							
"	F							
Appendicitis	M							
"	F	1			1			
Other Digestive Diseases	M							
	F	2				1	1	
Acute and Chronic Nephritis	M	3			1	2	1	
	F	5		1	1	1	2	
Maternal causes	F	1						
Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Malformations, etc.	M	3	3					
	F	1	1					
Suicide	M	2			1	1		
"	F	1						1
Road "Traffic Accidents	M	1			1			
"	F	1						1
Other Violence	M	1	1					
"	F	2				1	1	
All other causes	M	13	2		2		9	
"	F	17	1	1	1	1	13	
All Causes	M	102	8	1	2	11	14	66
"	F	116	3	3	1	13	16	80

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